

Thanksgiving



THE American Thanksgiving this year is invested with a profound significance, a blending of reverent appreciation for the blessings of the twelvemonth, and a poignant regret that so many members of the World Family are in the red agony of war. The Thanksgiving, definitely established after national stress and travail, is tender with sympathy and brotherhood, and, while one gives freely thanks to his Creator, freely, likewise, does he give of love for his fellows. It is the most human of seasons, in which man should, and does, follow the eternal lesson of the Great Teacher.

Thanksgiving is elemental in the soul of man and it probably found its first expression, not in peace, but after conflict in the early twilight of history, when some of the hairy men, who had awakened to the mystery and majesty of the sun as the giver of good things, raised their scarred arms toward it, reverent and triumphant, their grateful gutturals voicing thanks for victory.

And this primitive thanksgiving will be multiplied and intensified a thousandfold at the expiration of the present war—and not for the victory but for the coming of peace. In the intoxication of bloody triumph there can be little of the deep, spiritual thanksgiving; for, despite the gigantic slaughter that has made this century the Crimson Age, the world is still one big family with interests so closely interrelated that none is unaffected by the struggle. And none will give thanks, even with the prize of victory, for having made widows and orphans by the hundreds of thousands.

In the real thanksgiving there is neither exultation nor pride; no reflection of bitterness or hate; but a sweet realization of the kinship of all men before the Great Father.

In certain early and oriental liturgies was the Great Thanksgiving, now replaced by the preface and part of the canon. Then there is the General Thanksgiving in the Book of Common Prayer, a collect in the third place from the end of the order for morning and evening prayer, and of the litany. But the Thanksgiving which, while marked by the income of prayer, has the sunny lightness of good cheer and laughter, is that annually observed in the United States.

In the beginning of the observance was a day set apart by the Plymouth Pilgrims, in 1621, in acknowledgment of their first harvest in America. It was perpetuated in many states by an annual festival appointed by the governor. Its national celebration, in recognition of the year's blessings, was first recommended by proclamation issued at the city of New York, in 1789, by George Washington, who set apart for observance Thursday, November 26, of that year.

The war between the states was the event that established the national day. It has been, therefore, sanctified by the blood of brothers who died not in vain, for as a recurring observance it was proclaimed by President Lincoln in October, 1863, who fixed the



last Thursday in November. It since has thus been observed.

So it is that in 1915 the people of the United States give thanks, not for a war over, with the combatants putting aside the science of murder for the science of constructive things and resolutely facing the future, but because the country is at peace with its world brothers and looks toward taking the impartial part in the bringing about of the peace of Europe—and of the world. Dr. Carleton Simon, the distinguished neurologist, recently, while discussing "war as an acute nervous affliction and its treatment and its cure," made an interesting diagnosis of the condition of the United States. It may be reassuring to hear from such an eminent authority, who regards the more than 60,000,000 human beings in the presentment of a "gigantic composite," that there is no fear of Uncle Sam "flying off the handle."

"The United States has occupied," says he, "that is the special occasion for thanksgiving. But may not the whole world come to find cause for real thanksgiving in the new spirit derived and nourished by the tragedy of this war?"

Contrast those typical rural Thanksgiving pictures with some of the family groups and of austere operations within the war-smitten territory, and, if you be apart from want, you will feel a pang of kinesthetism and a regret that all of the world's struggling family should not be sharing the peace-and-plenty conditions.

In this case the turkey is the bird alike of peace and of plenty. It is the bird, likewise, of sacrifice—but not of burnt offering—and goes to its appointed end with what seems like a conscious dignity of the part it plays in the grateful season.

What fittest more honorable and impressive for a bird than to be fated to die to make happy an entire nation? For this brief, golden period the eagle is only a remote symbol. The Thanksgiving bird is magically transformed into a tempting thing of appetizing odors, an eye-entrancing vision of glistening brown and bronze and bringing in its train attendants of the field

that crisply show ivory white and pale emerald, and translucent, liquid ruby. In the turkey at this season there are the pride of country, the religious sense of a nation and its sustaining hopefulness, the racial family spirit that "makes the whole world akin," and the very essence of pleasing plenty.

THE THANKSGIVING FEAST

I
This is the day before the feast.
A rack of storm clouds, gray with warning.
Signals the valley, west to east.
"White fields and roads tomorrow morning!"
But through the farmhouse kitchen gleams
A light to gladden saint or sinner,
While Nell, and Margaret, and Rose
Make ready for Thanksgiving dinner.

II
The pantry shelves are lined with cakes
Of flaky crust and fragrant sweetening.
Yet incomplete the banquet waits
For this which Margaret's spoon is beating.
The sideboard gleams in jeweled light
With amber quince and ruby jelly.
'Twill wear an added grace tonight,
Wrought by the hands of Rose and Nell.

III
A stir of eager girlish feet
Across the ancient oaken flooring.
A burst of laughter, bubbling sweet
With mirth and confidence outpouring.
A rallying jest, an avestruke sigh
At Nell's mistakes and Margaret's knowledge.
Oh, never hours sped merrier by
For three fair cousins home from college!

IV
Beneath the kitchen roof-tree brown,
With weathered tile and rough-hewn rafters,
What memories are looking down—
A hundred years of toil and laughter!
What echoes of long-vanished feet
Stir in the shadows everlasting!
What far-off voices, young and sweet,
From other days of feast and fasting!

V
Tomorrow, through the drifted snows,
With hearts aglow for smile and greeting,
Nell, and Margaret, and Rose
Will walk across the hills to meeting.
Good angels join them as they raise
The old hymns dear to dead and living.
And blend the feasting and the praise
Into one day of pure thanksgiving.
—Mabel Earle, in Youth's Companion.

Resembling a large tracing wheel is a German inventor's device that accurately measures irregular lines.

A muscle from a frog's leg is utilized by a French inventor in a device that receives and records wireless signals.

Peat, compressed and formed into sheets, is replacing cork in Germany as an insulating material against heat and cold.

England and Wales together have 40 special schools for the blind, 51 for the deaf and 245 for otherwise defective children.

Sydney, N. S. W., now has a benzol plant.

The relative values of various kinds of coal are determined by X-rays with a method invented by French scientists.

Statistics have shown that American telephone operators answer calls two seconds quicker than their English cousins.

Experiments in rice cultivation in Porto Rico give promise of the island becoming an important producer of that grain.

FISH DYNAMITER KILLED BY BLAST

COMPANIONS ARRESTED.—GAME WARDEN OFFERS REWARD FOR ALL OFFENDERS.

DISPATCHES FROM COLUMBIA

Doings and Happenings That Mark the Progress of South Carolina People, Gathered Around the State Capitol.

Columbia.
Alfred A. Richardson, chief game warden, said a few days ago:

"P. H. Grumble, game warden from Clarendon county, has been in to see me relative to some dynamite cases in his county. According to Mr. Grumble's statement, three negroes named Dickson and another negro named Tom Brown went to Cuddo lake, near Davis Station, November 1 and were dynamiting the lake for the purpose of taking fish. It seems that one of the negroes, Frazier Dickson, was handling the dynamite and either cut his fuse too short or the fuse was defective. At any rate the dynamite exploded prematurely, killing Frazier. None of the other negroes was injured. Game Warden Grumble immediately got on the job, with the result that Tom Brown and the other two Dicksons have been placed in jail, charged with violating section 757 of the criminal code of 1912, which section imposes a penalty of \$500 for dynamiting any of the streams, lakes or waters of the state for the purpose of taking fish.

"This is the second case of dynamiting that has come to my notice recently. Recently I attended a preliminary trial at Blackville of two white men, charged with dynamiting fish in the Edisto river, but we failed to get a conviction, as the only witness we had was a negro and his testimony was not considered by the court to be sufficient.

"These dynamite cases are the hardest that I have to contend with. The crime is always committed in a lonely spot and the violators use every precaution toward secrecy. It seems from Mr. Grumble's statement that he has absolute proof on the Clarendon county negroes, and although it is to be regretted that one of the party was killed, nevertheless an example should be made of the others. A few examples throughout the state will go a long way toward breaking up this dynamiting business and if it is not broken up, it is just a matter of time before all of the fish in our streams will be killed. When a charge of dynamite is fired in a stream the man shooting the dynamite usually gets anywhere from five to 20 good sized fish. This in itself would not be so disastrous, but that same explosion kills hundreds of smaller fish and many instances destroys millions of eggs.

"After considering the gravity of the matter I have decided, as chief game warden, to make the following offer: To any person or persons who will furnish evidence sufficient to convict any one of dynamiting fish, I will pay the sum of \$50 cash. I, however, reserve the right to reject any testimony that is not competent."

3,000 Fish For Broad River.

Through the efforts of Congressman Wyatt Aiken, the fishery department of the United States has just put 3,000 black bass, averaging about three inches long, in Broad river above Parr Shoals—one-third of them at Dawkins, a third at Strothers and a third at Blairs. The expert from Washington, Mr. Sudduth, who handled the fish, says Broad river is peculiarly suitable for the raising of the black bass.

Peoples Will Be Candidate.

Thomas H. Peoples, attorney general, announced that he would be a candidate for re-election next year. Mr. Peoples is serving his second term, having been elected in 1912 and re-elected in 1914.

Many Good Postoffices.

Special from Washington.—There are a number of good South Carolina postoffices, according to a statement issued where the incumbents have not been appointed since March 4, 1913, and it is indicated that the plum tree may soon be shaken. These offices are as follows: Bamberg, Bishopville, Branchville, Camden, Central, Chester, Columbia, Darlington, Denmark, Dillon, Due West, Edgefield, Fort Mill, Greer, Honea Path, Johnston, Kershaw, Lamar, McCormick, Orangeburg, Prosperity, Ridgewood, Rock Hill,

Printing Plant At Asylum.

A small printing plant is being operated by patients at the State Hospital for the Insane. A small hand press was recently installed and the plant is a part of the occupational treatment for the patients, which is proving a fine success at the institution. "The press is being operated by the patients," said C. Fred Williams, M. D., superintendent. "The plant will mean a considerable saving to the state. We expect to train the patients and simple jobs will be turned over to the state."

Tobacco Peddlers Must Register.

It has been brought to the attention of D. C. Heyward, collector of internal revenue, that some of the manufacturers or wholesale dealers or traveling representatives of these concerns may have unintentionally violated the federal law covering peddlers of tobacco. It has been reported that wholesale dealers and manufacturers have, through their representatives, sold directly to retail dealers without having their representatives register with the collector of internal revenue as peddlers.

Subsection 11 of section 3244 of the revised statutes provides that any person who offers to sell and deliver manufactured tobacco, snuff, cigars or cigarettes, traveling from place to place, in the town or through the country shall be regarded as a peddler in tobacco, and section 3381 provides that every peddler of tobacco before commencing business or if he has already commenced, before continuing to peddle tobacco shall furnish to the collector a statement accurately setting forth the place of his residence and the state or states through which he proposes to travel, whether he proposes to sell his own manufacture of the manufacture of others, and if he sells for other parties the person for whom he sells. This peddler is required to give bond in the sum of \$500, said bond to be approved by the collector.

It is therefore held by the department that a traveling representative of a manufacturer or wholesale dealer should not deliver cigars or tobacco in any form upon receipt of an order. Should he do so, he would be considered a peddler, and for failure to register with the collector would be liable to the penalties prescribed by law.

Nine Big Craft to Charleston.

Washington.—The Second and Third division of the Atlantic fleet, including the battleships South Carolina, Utah, Michigan, Kansas, Florida, Virginia, Georgia, New Jersey and Rhode Island and a flotilla of torpedo boats, submarines and other naval craft will be ordered to Charleston during the convention of the Southern Commercial congress there December 13 to 17. Secretary Daniels notified officials of the congress in response to their request that warships be sent to Charleston during the convention.

A feature of the sessions will be a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the conclusion of the War Between the States. Both Secretary Daniels and Secretary Garrison are expected to deliver addresses.

Officials of the congress announced that South Carolina authorities had promised to mobilize the State National Guard at Charleston during the convention.

One of the features of the convention will be a general discussion of the national defense problem.

Bryan Sends Gift to Manning.

A highly polished, miniature steel plowshare has been presented to the State of South Carolina by William Jennings Bryan. The gift, which bears the following wording, was sent to Gov. Manning's office:

"To the State of South Carolina from William Jennings Bryan.

"Nothing is final between friends.

"They shall beat their swords into plowshares.

"Diplomacy is the art of keeping cool."

Militia Will Soon Be Paid.

The militia companies which were in service in Charleston during and after the recent municipal election will be paid as soon as all the expense accounts have been sent to the office of the adjutant general. The necessary funds will be borrowed from a Charleston bank and will be distributed immediately. Practically all the expense accounts have been received, and it is estimated that the expenditure will aggregate \$8,750.

New Enterprises Authorized.

The McFadden-Millsap company of Sardinia has been commissioned with a capital of \$5,000. The petitioners are W. L. Millsap, L. B. McFadden and T. M. McFadden.

The secretary of state has issued a commission to S. L. Miller & Son of Columbia, with a capital of \$1,500. The petitioners are S. L. Miller and S. L. Miller, Jr.

The secretary of state has issued a charter to the Modern Furniture Company of Hartsville with a capital of \$15,000. The officers are: J. M. Blackwell, president; A. L. Blackwell, vice president and treasurer, and E. L. Blackwell, secretary and manager.

Mackorell-Hart Company of York has been commissioned by the secretary of state, with a capital of \$10,000. The E. P. Mobley Company of Little Rock has been commissioned with a capital of \$2,000.

The Piedmont Motor Company of Greenwood has been commissioned with a capital of \$10,000.

The Darlington Insurance and Investment company has been chartered with a capital of \$10,000. The officers are: W. L. Wait, president; A. Hyman, vice president; B. W. Wait, secretary, and J. S. McInnes, treasurer.

The C. F. Power Cash Grocery Company of Anderson has been chartered with a capital of \$1,000.

The Bank of Whitmire has been chartered with a capital of \$10,000.

The Domus corporation of Chicago, in Charleston county, has been chartered by the secretary of state, with a capital of \$5,000.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Acting Director of Sunday School Course of Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)
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LESSON FOR NOVEMBER 21

JONAH A MISSIONARY TO NINEVEH.

LESSON TEXT.—Jonah 3:1-10.
GOLDEN TEXT.—Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I command you; and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.—Matt. 28:19, 20 R. V.

The story of Jonah is one of the most famous and most interesting in the Bible. In former series of lessons more extended use has been made of the book giving time to discuss its historicity and other questions involved. This time only one reference is used and that for the purpose of its missionary teaching. We accept the record of the book literally because similar facts are recorded in profane history but chiefly because of the testimony and the usage made of it by Jesus (see Matt. 12:40; 16:4 and Luke 11:30).

I. The Prophet Proclaiming, vv. 1-4. Jonah "paid the fare" (1:3) and "out of the depths" (Ps. 130:1) God delivered him that he might fulfill his God-appointed task. Even so the nation of Israel is today crying from out of the depths of its woe among the nations and will certainly be "delivered" when the king comes, that it may take its rightful place and fulfill its God-appointed tasks. It is a wonderful testimony of God's grace (vi) that God's word came to Jonah a "second time." Once he ran from God's command but God is the God of the gospel of a "second chance" and a third if only we repent and do his commands, but God does not give a "second chance" to the unrepentant (Num. 14:40-45). Verse two explicitly sets forth the message Jonah is to deliver even so we are to proclaim the Gospel (see 1 Cor. 15:1-4) not the speculations of men nor the subtleties of philosophy. The messenger of God will find his message in the word of God and will declare it. It is the word which reveals God's love, his plan of salvation, and the destiny of the saints. "By the foolishness of preaching" men will be saved. The word "preach" literally means "to cry out" or "call out" and implies that earnestness and insistence needful for a true advocate or witness of God. But the power is not in us; it is not the word of God mingled with the theories of men, or with such added to the word. The Bible is the soul winner true staff. Nineveh, vast magnificent and wealthy could not atone for its wickedness; its greatness only aggravated its condition. Jonah did not spend any time to acquaint himself with conditions or to do sight-seeing but cried, "yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown." When he explicitly and minutely obeyed and delivered God's message he at once aroused and arrested the attention of the city. He did not attempt to present "credentials," nor explain or defend his message. He did not seek to harmonize it with "current thought" nor give it a "modern expression." He was blunt and without compromise but gave an opportunity for repentance.

II. The People Penitent, vv. 5-10. Nineveh paid immediate heed to the man who did not slur over God's warning. Had the city continued in sin, it had not been delivered. Nineveh did four things and as a result they were saved: (1) They believed, "believed God" (v. 5). All true repentance is conditioned upon accepting God at his word (John 13:20). (2) They evidenced humiliation (v. 6). They gave such evidence by humbling themselves in the sight of God from the king upon the throne to "even the least." There was no apparent attempt to qualify or to evade God's decree, but rather to accept it and by taking a proper place in his sight he delivered from the penalty of their just deserts. (3) They prayed (v. 8; cf. 6, 7). Their prayer was intense. The kind of prayer that counts with God must also count upon God, and God "is slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy" (Neh. 9:17). Prayer that is effective is (a) grounded upon the word of God (b) forsakes sin and (c) obeys the will of God. (James 1:22; 2:17). (4) They made sacrifice (v. 8). Mere humiliation and prayer does not effect a remedy unless there is a merciless judgment executed upon sin. Did Jonah fail in his mission? No! For God's predictions of ruin are not absolute and unconditional (Jer. 18:7-10). Chapter four is the record of Jonah's penitence and of God's loving-kindness.

Nineveh continued for nearly 200 years subsequently but it was then so completely destroyed that for nearly 2,000 years its location was unknown and disputed though now yielding a rich harvest for the archeologist and Bible student.

Can a nation be stirred today? For answer witness Mott and Eddy in China. In 14 of China's chief cities during three months of 1913, 7,000 of the leaders of that nation enrolled as inquirers. Have your class read carefully and prayerfully Psalms 2, Matt. 28:19-20 (Golden text) and Rom. 1:16.

INTERESTING BITS

The American mountain sheep are the greatest leapers in the world.

The British government is establishing a very powerful wireless station in Jamaica.

Virginia is the leading state in the production of soapstone, Vermont ranking second.

The United States bureau of standards has developed a delicate thermoelectric test for the purity of platinum.